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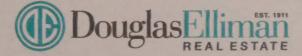
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VOLUME LVIII NUMBER 48

This issue is dedicated to Blue Ivy Carter.

FEBRUARY 23. 2018



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158 County Road 39 • Southampton, NY 11968 • 631-537-0500 • Classified Phone 631-537-4900 • Classified Fax 631-287-0428 Dan's Papers was founded in 1960 by Dan Rattiner and is the first free resort newspaper in America. For questions about delivery, please email Delivery@DansHamptons.com or call 631-725-8201.

Chief Executive Officer & Publisher Steven McKenna, smckenna@danshamptons.com

> **Editorial Director** Eric Feil, ericf@danshamptons.com

President & Editor-In-Chief Dan Rattiner, dan@danshamptons.com

Senior Editor

Stacy Dermont, stacy@danshamptons.com

Associate Editor

Brian Cudzilo, brian@danshamptons.com

Senior Web Editor

Oliver Peterson, oliver@danshamptons.com

Assistant Editor

David Taylor

Head of Sales Daniel Schock, dschock@danshamptons.com

Associate Publishers

Maria Cable, Catherine Ellams, Kathy Rae, Tom W. Ratcliffe III

Senior Inside Account Manager Richard Scalera

Inside Account Managers

Kathy Camarata, Steve Daniel

Marketing & Events Manager

Christopher Sandstrom, chris@danshamptons.com

Art & Production Manager

Genevieve Horsburgh, gen@danshamptons.com

Graphic Design

Flora Cannon, flora@danshamptons.com

Creative Services Manager, Sales & Marketing

Gary Vacca, gary@danshamptons.com

Photo Coordinator

Barbara Lassen, blassen@danshamptons.com

Business Manager

Frank Vigorito, frank@danshamptons.com

Accounts Receivable

Joan Jacob, joan@danshamptons.com

Office Managers

Janice Wilmot, janice@danshamptons.com Julianne Melville, julianne@danshamptons.com

Contributing Writers

Contributing Artists & Photographers

Dan's Advisory Board

Frazer Dougherty, Audrey Flack, Walter Isaacson, Billy Joel, John Roland, Mort Zuck

MANHATTAN MEDIA

Chairman
Richard Burns rburns@manhattanmedia.com

Director of Finance & Operations

Shawn Scott sscott@manhattanmedia.com

Executive Assistant to the Chairman

Clara Quiroga equiroga@isisventures.com

Chief Technology Officer

Dennis Rodriguez, dennis@danshamptons.com

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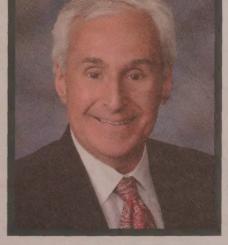


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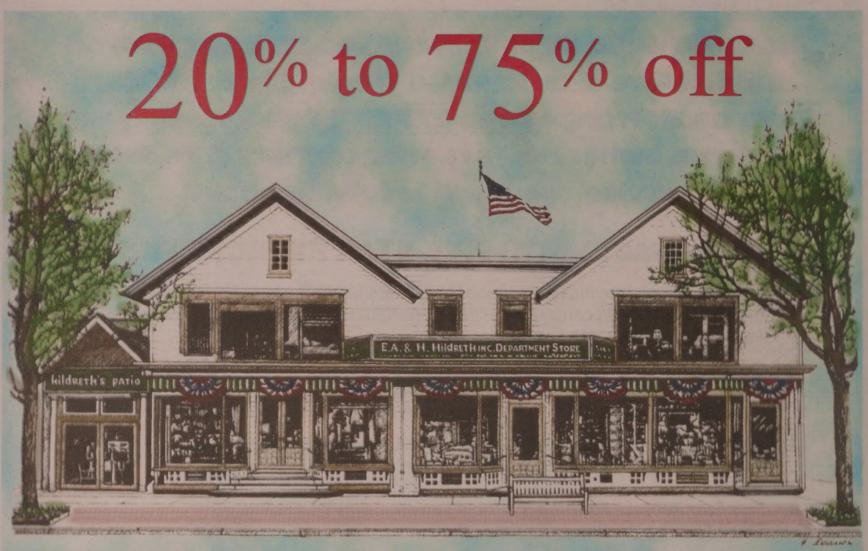




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Amagansett resident **Sir Paul McCartney** will receive Israel's prestigious Wolf Prize in May. The Wolf Foundation is recognizing McCartney as one of the greatest songwriters of all time. The Wolf Prize ceremony will take place in May.

South Fork regular Alexa Ray Joel, musician daughter of longtime Hamptons residents Billy Joel and Christie Brinkley, shared her New York City apartment with *The New York Times* last week. Joel's home is filled with antique artwork, heirlooms and gifts from her parents. Said the musician of the unique décor, "My mother teases me, 'You are more polished, but you are like 20 steps from a *Grey Gardens* moment.' It's true."

Meanwhile, Sailor Brinkley Cook, Christie Brinkley's daughter with Hamptons architect Peter Cook, penned an essay for this year's Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue. For the "In Her Own Words" piece, Cook shared her pursuit of perfection, and the steps she's taken toward embracing imperfection. Advising other women, she said, "Treat yourself with the respect you would treat someone you love. Give yourself enough love to want to take care of your health, but also be mindful that you are only human. There is so much beauty in the mistakes, in the fight. There is so much beauty in the uncontrollable."

Art news: Romany Kramoris of Romany Kramoris Gallery in Sag Harbor is the recipient of a scholarship from Urban Glass, one of the premier glass artist facilities in the country, located in Brooklyn, to study Advanced Painted & Stained Glass Assemblage: Expanded. The intensive workshop investigates the historic medium of stained glass with a contemporary approach taught by world-renowned artist Glenn Carter. The works of Sag Harbor's own Jeanelle Myers will grace the John Jermain Memorial Library for the month of March.

Rashad Robinson, a Riverhead native and executive director of Color of Change, a racial justice organization with more than a million members, will be the guest of honor and featured speaker at the NAACP-Long Island Region Awards Luncheon on February 24 in Woodbury.

The North Fork's **Anthony Nappa** is releasing the East End's first organic wines this weekend!

Read more South O' the Highway daily at DansPapers.com

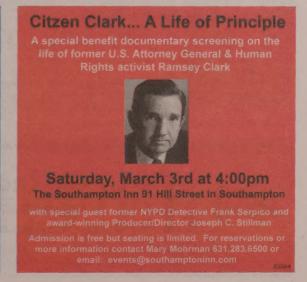












"Along with the New York Subway System, Hamptons Subway is the only underground transit system in the State of New York."



BY DAN RATTINER

Week of February 22–28, 2018 Riders this past week: 29,831 Rider miles this past week: 102,813

DOWN IN THE TUBE

Businessman Carl Ichan was seen riding the Hamptons Subway reading the Wall Street Journal last Saturday morning heading west from the Georgica station toward East Hampton. Alec Baldwin and family were seen riding toward Montauk on Sunday heading from Amagansett to Montauk. Natalie Portman was seen riding the subway between Springs and East Hampton on Thursday morning and author Steven Gaines was seen boarding the Hamptons Subway in Westhampton Beach heading toward Quogue.

TOKEN BOOTHS?

It's been 20 years since a token has been sold at the booths on any of the platforms. And yet, people continue to call them token booths. Part of the reason might be that the words TOKEN BOOTH are carved in the reinforced concrete that forms a cap over these little kiosks. Now

there is a move to change the names to Swipe Card Booths. A proposal to that effect was discussed at the last meeting of the Board of Directors on Thursday, but when it was pointed out that the old words TOKEN BOOTH, in that charming Bodoni Italic type, would have to be chiseled out and it was further pointed out that both Steven Spielberg and Woody Allen often film our token booths for their 1940s era movies, the idea was tabled.

PRESIDENT'S DAY

The number of people using Hamptons Subway last weekend set a record for any prior President's Day weekend since 2008. There was record ridership that year, then came the Great Recession. Anyway, the crowds, the long lines, the breakdowns and the tie-ups reminded everybody of the service in the summertime on the subway. We are all looking for those busy, exciting days to come this summer.

LEAKAGE UNDER TROUT POND

The subway tunnel that curves beneath Trout Pond in Noyac has had its problems. Now, a leak has developed in the subway's ceiling there, trickling in water from the pond. Once in a while a little fish comes through with the water that periodically squirts down onto the subway cars roofs. At the present time, Hamptons Subway is monitoring the depth of the water in the pond to determine the amount of leakage during any 24-hour period. And rubber suited divers are using flashlights, looking for the underwater cracks from above. All we know at this point is that an average of two or three dead carp have to be cleared off the roofs of the subway cars in the Montauk Maintenance Yards at the end of every day.

EVEN FLAMETHROWERS AND BAZOOKAS

Riders are reminded that no weapons of any kind are allowed on the Hamptons Subway and that includes the most recent additions of military weapons—delayed action hand grenades, flamethrowers, bazookas and backpack missiles.

COMMISSIONER ASPINALL'S MESSAGE

Birthday cakes for all the former Presidents of the United States still living were made by Hamptons Subway nutritionists and chefs for a big office staff celebration in the company cafeteria last Monday in our Hampton Bays building. Cakes decorated with the faces of George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama were tackled with glee by the staff, and a good time was had by all. The cake decorate with the face of Jimmy Carter was brought out toward the end as the baking department did not know he was still among us. All the Presidents were invited, but none came. What a time.





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The Paper Bag Project at the Southampton Arts Center

Artist Francisco Alvarado-Juárez kicked off The Paper Bag Project at the Southampton Arts Center on Saturday, February 17. As part of the Project, the museum will hold monthly workshops for the public to come and help paint and cut paper bags that will become part of an installation, in September. Photographs by Barbara Lassen









1. Artist Francisco Alvarado-Juarez with his assistant Camila Marichal

- 2. Amanda Camps and Danielle DeBruyn
- 3. Art in the making
- 4. Southampton Arts Center
- 5. Southampton Arts Center (SAC) Director of Programs **Amy Kirwin** and Administrative Assistant at SAC **Hannah DiGate** pose next to an art piece currently on display in A Radical Voice: 23 Women

YorkBridge Hosts First Hamptons Business Leadership Conference in Montauk

Managing Partner Andrew Stern of the independent financial planning firm YorkBridge Wealth Partners hosted an invitation-only Business Leaders Conference on January 22 at Gurney's Montauk Resort & Seawater Spa for Hamptons-based small business owners. Said Stern, "The goal of the YorkBridge Business Leaders Conference is to create a thought-provoking experience for local small business owners and professionals who are interested in gaining insight from a variety of experts. It's an ideal forum to connect, learn, exchange best practices and to inspire each other." Photographs by Adrienne Pasquale





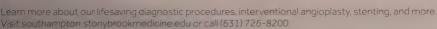
1. Andrew Stern of YorkBridge Wealth Partners, led a panel on philanthropy featuring Stephanie Diamond, Managing Director, Business Development at Schwab Charitable

- ${\it 2. Thomas \, McGinn, \, MD, \, Deputy \, Physician-in-Chief, \, Northwell \, Health}$
- 3. Jeffrey Lane, Yorkbridge Wealth Partner
- 4. Carrie Gallaway, Yorkbridge Wealth Partner

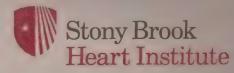


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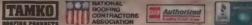
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The launch of the C-5 dirigible at Montauk as it begins its attempt to fly to Europe

Montauk 1919

The Attempt to Be the First to Fly Across the Atlantic Ocean Nonstop

BY DAN RATTINER

ost people think the busy village of downtown Montauk was established all at once in 1926, when millionaire Carl Fisher bought the Montauk peninsula and bulldozed a grid of roads into an empty 100-acre field. Fisher built churches, stores, a bathing club and that odd-looking six-story skyscraper that faces out onto the Plaza.

Fisher's development of Montauk went into receivership after the Crash of '29. But the bare bones of what he built remained and have developed into the thriving village you see today when you drive in from the west.

It turns out, however, that a huge Navy complex of nearly 30 buildings was constructed where downtown is today, just 10 years before Fisher came. The complex took up 32 acres of what is now downtown. From it, biplanes and dirigibles were flown along the coastline of Montauk on surveillance missions. The year was 1917, and America had joined the French and English to fight Germany in the trenches of Europe.

The war ended in November 1918. But the American Navy didn't decommission the naval base in Montauk until August 2, 1919. And, as they always did, they just moved out and left everything as it was. But six years later, when

Fisher first laid eyes on the place, he decided the buildings were taking up space for his planned resort city. So he had the complex bulldozed. All that remains today is an unused launching ramp into the pond next to the downtown soccer field.

The Montauk Library has several photographs of the Naval Air Station at Montauk taken from the air. They were taken from a biplane in 1918. You can see the pond and the ocean. On the shore of the pond, next to a supply dock, huge hangars housed the dirigibles and biplanes. Behind them were the barracks buildings, warehouses and officer's quarters.

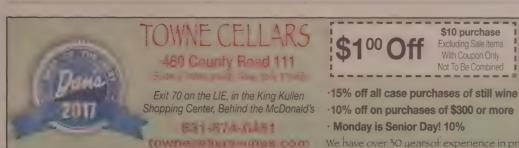
There was no runway. The biplane seaplanes took off skimming along the waters of the pond. The dirigibles were launched from an open field next to the pond. The vast size of this complex suggests there might have been as many as a thousand naval officers there.

Their was an incident in 1919, which began on May 14, three months before the base was decommissioned. Four dirigible pilots-Lt. J. Campbell, Lt. J. B. Lawrence, Lt. Charles Little and Lt Commander E. W. Coll-were given permission from their superiors to try to fly one of the Navy dirigibles across the Atlantic Ocean to England, nonstop. No aircraft had ever done that. The four fliers that day in May, with members of the press in attendance, launched the 196-foot-long dirigible C-5 over Fort Pond and flew it out to sea.

They planned to stop at a dirigible field at St. John, Newfoundland, where they would get gasoline, hydrogen and supplies. From there they'd go across to Europe. Heading for Newfoundland, they became temporarily lost in a thunderstorm near St. Pierre Island, Canada. They found their way but then got lost a second time in a storm over Newfoundland when their navigation equipment malfunctioned. Using voice radio, they contacted the U.S. Navy Cruiser Chicago in port in St. John, and thus made their way to a tie-down spot near there.

The engines were opened to be serviced, and the crew departed to get supplies of food and water (which were now very low), but then the storm worsened. Lt. Little climbed into the gondola and pulled the lever that would cause a rope to deflate the gasbag. The rope broke, and Lt. Little leaped back to the ground just in time before the storm ripped the dirigible free and carried it out to sea, never to be seen again. Little suffered a sprained ankle.

As you may know, the first person to fly across the Atlantic alone (he won the \$25,000 prize offered up by New York hotel owner Ray Orteig) was Charles Lindbergh. He took off on May 20, 1927 from (Continued on next page)



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1919 (Continued from previous page)

Roosevelt Field, at the western end of Long Island. But that is another story.

Montauk may have been the first airfield of consequence in the Hamptons. But there were many more—some just private grass strips-and what follows is a survey of some of them that I know.

In those early days, before 1920, fliers delivered mail and flew from place to place in biplanes at speeds of about 80 miles an hour, navigating by looking Bi-plane getting hauled ashore from Fort Pond in Montauk down for monuments and buildings that coincided with these things located on maps they had in the cockpit.

On Scuttlehole Road in Bridgehampton, there is a barn with huge letters spelling out BREEZE HILL in white shingles on its red roof. There was a grass strip at Breeze Hill. The big sign, clearly visible from the air, told you that. The federal government decreed that people paint names of places on the roofs like that. They did so all over the United States. Some still remain.

Flier (and later billionaire) Howard Hughes flew into Breeze Hill. He also landed at another grass strip just to the west of Hayground Road. northeast of the tracks in Bridgehampton. A small barn where planes were housed is still there. Hughes also came out by seaplane to visit a girlfriend whose parents had a house on the banks of Georgica Pond. I've met people who, as boys and girls, remember seeing his



yellow seaplane circling around the pond before landing. He'd have a few kids climb aboard and take them on a free half-hour ride over the pond before walking up the dock to visit his friend.

The East Hampton Airport was founded in 1936 with Works Projects Administration (WPA) government funds. The first terminal was a former World War I army barracks that a farmer towed over. An expansion occurred when another farmer towed over a chicken coop to be attached to it.

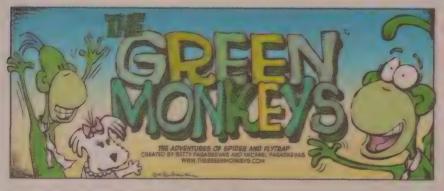
What is now Gabreski Airport in Westhampton was built by the Army in 1943 during the Second World War for fighter planes to defend Long Island from possible German attacks. After the war, it became a commercial airport, but during the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War, the Air Force briefly took it over again. Today, Suffolk County owns the airport as a general aviation facility and shares the property with the legendary Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing, which, like an airborne fire department, is scrambled to rescue mariners in distress at sea by rappelling rescuers down ropes from helicopters.

In the 1950s, a secret Army guidedmissile base was established in the woods near Gabreski, where BOMARC missiles were put in tubes sunk into the ground. These were each 40 feet long. There were about a dozen of them. The empty underground "silos" remain there today.

Farmers often built small planes from kits in those years, particularly after the Lindbergh flight. The farmers would fly off to visit friends and neighbors who had airstrips. Nothing was regulated. I know of a former grass airstrip off James Lane in East Hampton (in the field where Author's Night takes place), and another just south of the General Store in Sagaponack, where a farmer had cleared a path through a cornfield.

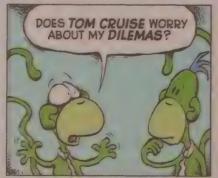
During World War II, Grumman aircraft built a private airport in Calverton where they could test their fighter planes. They continued with it for many years. In 1990, Grumman sold the land to the Town of Riverhead, as I recall, for \$1, and today it is an industrial park—with a runway.

Montauk Airport opened in 1958, a single runway parallel to the beach with a shack at the end. It's still there and in use today.





















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Science Fair



Page D3

Solving Sex, Global Warming and Health Care on One Page

BY DAN RATTINER

The New York Times has been solving the problems of the world once a week for years. They do it in the section called "Science Times," which appears every Tuesday. But they never quite take it far enough. I would like to take that extra step here.

I direct your attention to page D3 from Tuesday, February 6. It solves global warming, sex and health care. There is a photograph of a peculiar kind of salamander. The article that follows solves our health-care system problems.

"Scientists have decoded the genome of the axolotl," the article begins. The work has been done at the Research Institute of Molecular Pathology in Vienna. The results of their work appear in the magazine *Nature*.

An axolotl is a special kind of salamander found in Mexico. Its genome consists of 32 billion separate pairs. This number of genome pairs is greater than that of any other creature. Indeed, the axolotl has 10 times the number of genome pairs that humans do.

The axolotl has many special qualities. With its genome solved, all we have to do is apply the axolotl's special qualities to humans. That will result in the end of all our health care problems.

If you amputate an axolotl's leg, it regrows the leg, complete with bones, muscles and nerves. If you crush its spinal cord, it regenerates the spinal cord. If you cut an axolotl, its skin heals without leaving a scar. If you damage an internal organ, it repairs itself by itself. I am not making this up.

Nobody is going to have to go to a doctor or take medicine anymore. If you get sick or

something gets damaged, just lie down and it all gets better. No health care necessary.

We have the solution to the "thinking with the small brain" problem here on page D3, too. It's in a little Q&A section. A reader asks: "Does an octopus have a brain? Where is it? And just how smart is an octopus?" Turns out, an octopus has a central brain in its head but then eight more brains at the end of each of its eight tentacles. If an octopus wants to swim through a maze, open a jar, or decide on the size and shape of something in its path, it can think that with the brain in its head. Or, if you disable the brain in the head, it can still think with each tentacle. To completely disable an octopus, you have to disable the tentacles, too.

Human males have one appendage that females don't. When certain men agree they have to go to sex-attitude readjustment clinics, make sure that both brains get readjusted.

Finally, the quick-fix solution to climate change is also on page D3. Scientists have figured out what happened to the Earth's climate when the big volcano Pinatubo exploded in the Philippines in 1991. Smoke and sulfur dioxide gasses spewed up into the atmosphere. The average temperature in the world declined by one degree for several years as a result. A similar thing happened when the famous volcano Krakatoa exploded in Sumatra in 1883. Nobody was measuring anything then, but the skies around the world darkened and temperatures cooled for years. People made magnificent paintings of the spectacular sunsets through the haze during those years.

But when Mount St. Helens exploded in Washington in 1980, the temperature did

not decline. Why? Alan Robock, an SRM (Solar Radiation Management) researcher at Rutgers University, told the *Times* that it's "important to learn how volcanoes affect climate." Mount St. Helens, although of similar force as the other two, didn't aim straight up as much. Most of its emissions came out sideways, the *Times* wrote, and that's probably what the difference was.

Now it appears Mt. Agung in Bali is about to explode. Everybody wants to be ready with balloons and airplanes and so forth to see what happens.

I recall that in about 1990 somebody saying that if you sprayed his special chemical on the radiators of every automobile in the world, they would motor along sucking in carbon dioxide and spewing out water.

Let's cap all the volcanoes, except Mt. Agung. There is a fourth article on page D3, but I can't figure out if it solves any huge problem or not. I think, after reading it, I'm just too freaked.

It involves the dynamics about how snakes slither. How do they? Well, scientists at the University of Cincinnati caught some snakes, put electrodes on the muscles inside the snakes' skin and watched TV screens as they slithered off. The New York Times article summarized the results in this paragraph written by Science Take writer James Gorman.

"As the snake moves forward, a muscle in its belly skin shortens the skin and stays tensed. Then a muscle running forward from the tip of one rib to the skin tenses to pull the skeleton and body forward over the skin. Another muscle that runs toward the tail from the middle of a rib to the skin pulls the skin forward."

It solves...what?

Just Do This One Simple Thing and Help Stop the Killings

BY DAN RATTINER

Cain hit Abel with a stone. Brutus stabbed Caesar with a knife. Henry Thaw shot Stanford White with a pistol. In the song, Frankie shot Johnny with another pistol. The Boston Strangler used stockings. I wish it were different, but while we can decrease the number of killings with new laws and tougher enforcement, there is nothing that will completely stop people from murdering other people once in a while with whatever is at hand.

Humans are also good to other people. That happens, too. But this essay is not about that. This is about killing. And there is something new in the mix. It is plain as the nose on your

face. Today, if you are angry, disturbed, bored, wishing for money or whatever, there is a knife and a pistol, but now also a semi-automatic submachine gun. So every few weeks we get a slaughter of civilians somewhere in our country.

Before the 1989 mass shooting in Stockton, California took 5 lives and left 29 wounded, assault weapons were not bought much in the U.S. In 1985, there were fewer than 4,000 assault weapons in the hands of private individuals in America. Today, assault weapons are a raging epidemic—more than 1.2 million were sold privately in 2017. It is a catastrophe.

Gun enthusiasts—I am not one—say the Second Amendment gives them the right to bear arms. Okay. Guns have been used in



Tuesday, November 6 is Election Day....

America and elsewhere by private individuals for hunting, defense of a home, skeet shooting, sport or target practice. But for hunting you don't need a submachine gun; for sport you don't need one; and for protection you don't need one. I can't think of a single instance where a gun that fires 30 bullets every 20 seconds makes any sense for civilian use. None.

Obviously, one major way to stop the slaughters we are experiencing every few weeks at schools, churches and everywhere else is to ban submachine guns. How can anyone argue otherwise? We know it works. In Australia, after 35 people were killed by submachine gun in Port Arthur in 1996, they banned such weapons. Before the ban they had 13 mass murders in 18 years. Since the ban, zero.

We also have the experience for the period of 1994 to 2004 when assault weapons in America were banned from being sold. Existing assault weapons were not rounded up. Nevertheless, the number of deaths from mass shootings declined by 43% from the 10 year period before.

The approach that apparently is going to be undertaken with the present administration is to ignore the elephant in the room and blame it all on mental illness. Fix that, you solve the problem. It's nonsense. The killings will continue. Mass murders are being perpetrated by gamblers, white supremacists, religious fanatics, star-crossed lovers, angry teens, quiet folks you'd never expect would do such a thing. And yes, the mentally ill. Don't believe Trump's logic that says if there's one illegal-alien rapist in California, we have to wall-off Mexico.

The losers? That will be freedom of speech. There will be regular Americans who say the wrong thing at the wrong time, and the new wild goose chase will lead to situations similar to that for boarding an airplane. Say the wrong thing at the wrong time, they throw you off.

But how do you throw people off the planet? Well, I suppose we will build locked facilities with wardens and psychiatrists and guards for anybody who says in anger "I will kill you" a few times either really loud or on Facebook or Twitter. Or any poor soul who a psychiatrist says is afflicted with a mental illness.

It will solve nothing.

Get AR-15 guns and those like it out of the hands of private individuals. Demand they all be turned in. Pay people to turn them in. If they are not turned in, arrest anyboy who owns one.

The senseless slaughters will continue until we do. Save our children.



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Celebrity Troubles

There's Always Somebody Out There Doing Better Than You

BY DAN RATTINER

Last fall, Jay-Z and his wife, Beyoncé, purchased a beautiful home fronting on Georgica Pond in East Hampton. It set them back \$26 million. This is just a small sum in the scheme of their things. Jay-Z, the legendary music entrepreneur, is one of the richest men in America. He's been on the cover of Forbes magazine. She is the highest-earning woman in the music industry, Forbes says.

But since last month, bad things have been happening.

The Grammy Awards happened. Jay-Z had more nominations in more categories than anyone else in the industry. Song of the Year? Best Rap Album? Best Rap Song? Best Music Video? Best Rap/Sung Collaboration? Record of the Year? Best Rap Performance? Album of the Year? Eight times they called out the winner to come up, and eight times it was someone else. This had never happened to him before.

Next came a brief Twitter tangle with Donald Trump. After Trump reportedly said, "Why are we having all these people from shithole countries come here?" Jay-Z sounded off on CNN.

"After the anger, it's really hurtful because he's looking down on a whole population of people, and he's so misinformed because these places have beautiful people," he said. "This is the leader of the free world speaking like this."

Trump fired back on Twitter. "Somebody please inform Jay-Z that because of my policies, Black Unemployment has just been reported to be at the LOWEST RATE EVER RECORDED!

That's what you get for tampering with the big Tweeter Totter.

Now comes news that the architect Richard Meier, who bought a piece of vacant land on Georgica Pond 46 years ago, has submitted plans to build a magnificent modern house for his grown daughter, Ana, on the property. He's already transferred the property to his daughter. And now he's applying to the East Hampton Village Board of Appeals for zoning variances he needs to make the project happen as he wants.

Guess what? At the hearing, beside the lawyers for the Meiers, were lawyers for Jay-Z and Beyoncé. They are alarmed by this project. If approved and built, it will block the view of the pond from Jay-Z and Beyoncé's newly bought house. All of it? Part of it? I don't know.

You know what? No matter what you've got, there's always somebody who's got more.

I've known Billy Joel for many years. Once, visiting me at my office, he told me that he had just learned he had more albums go platinum than anybody else ever.

"But I think this is going to last maybe a month," he said. "Garth Brooks is going to pass me."

Sigh.

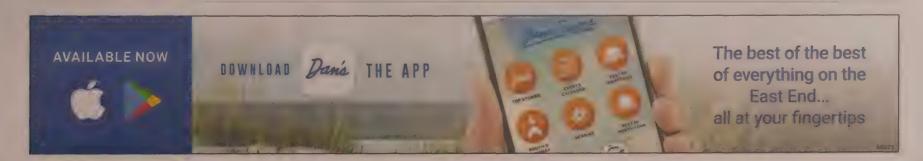
I think this message holds true for everything and everybody in life. Go to the top of One World Trade Center, 1,776 feet high. Someone might tell you it's the tallest building in the world, but it's not. There are half a dozen taller.

The only exception I can think of in this regard, where you don't worry about the approaching hoof-beats, is the 2,717-foot-tall Burj Khalifa in Dubai. People living up there can say, truly, that they're Number One. Nobody is higher.

But then there is a gust of wind and the building moves with it. Gulp.

And then someday there WILL be something higher.

Wait. I think another exception to this is Donald Trump. I think he believes that he is the guy who is going to (Continued on next page)



Celeb (Continued from previous page)

be the one that surpasses everybody else, and nobody can stop him.

His businesses went through a terrible bankruptcy around 1990. It seemed he was finished. A year or two after that, as he was still in business, I asked him about it. I was wondering if there was ever a time during that brush with bankruptcy that he felt he might wind up on a street corner with a tin cup. How close did he come?

"Even in the worst of times," he said, "I always thought I'd get through. Somehow. There was nothing to be gained by worrying about it. So I didn't."

He talked about the West Side Yards, his planned tallest building in Chicago, his expansion of the Taj Mahal. There'd be 2,500 suites, not just 1,400. All to come. Nearly all of them didn't happen, but there he was, answering my question this way.

So it's Donald Trump and the Burj Khalifa. And the wind blows.

I'd like to end this by telling a story about myself.

One evening years ago, one of the owners of the New York Knicks arranged for me and my wife to sit courtside to watch a game. As it turned out, it wasn't exactly courtside. It was second row, just behind courtside. In front of us was another couple, unfamiliar to us, blocking our view. Why weren't we courtside? This couple were very lovey-dovey to each another. They'd hold hands, smile at each



Beyoncé & Jay-Z's \$26 million East Hampton home

other. Whenever the Knicks made a great play they'd lean forward and cheer and with that, the black shirt the woman directly in front of me was wearing would lift in back, and I could see she was wearing a red thoug.

During the third quarter, someone came over to the man in front of my wife and asked for his autograph on a program. My wife leaned over to me and whispered, "That's Jay-Z." I knew about Jay-Z, and he is a nice looking man, but frankly I had not recognized him. "Let's get his autograph, too," my wife urged. And so I tapped him on the shoulder and he turned, and when I asked he smiled and signed the program.

Then this girl next to him said, "I'll sign, too." She signed. It was somebody I'd never heard of. And I thought this was a rather forward thing for her to have done. Jay-Z had been nice enough. Who did she think she was, anyway?

At home I showed off the Jay-Z autograph to my kids, who at that time were 12 and 10, and they asked about the other autograph, so I told them the story about his girlfriend signing. It seemed to lessen the autograph of Jay-Z in some way. But what the hell.

About a year later, I saw a performer on television I'd never seen before, but it made me run back to the program I'd saved to look again at the signature.

Beyoncé.

Well, here's the last word on this, from Jay-Z, as he spoke on CNN about his brush with the Donald last week.

"It's not about money at the end of the day," he said. "Money doesn't equate to happiness. It doesn't. That's missing the whole point. You treat people like human beings. That's the main point."



This Week's Cover Artist: Doug Zider



Doug Zider is quietly approaching legend status at Dan's Papers. His six covers in 2008—a feat that helped him win a coveted Dan's Best of the Best Cover Artist award that year—turned out to be just the beginning of a

prolific run. From his studio "a stone's throw from the water of the Great South Bay," Zider continues to create work that connects with many East Enders.

This certainly resembles a Long Island scene. Where is this painting set?

The painting is honestly a good cross with the marshes here on the South Shore as well as some cove areas on the Sound, a bit extended but same feel. I've been well familiarized with both in my time.

Where else do you find inspiration on the East End?

I love Montauk...even though she's getting a bit overrun by the tourist trade and highstake homes

You've been featured on more than one dozen *Dan's Papers* covers. Do you have a favorite? Yes, October 10, 2008. "Island Horizon." I never should've sold that painting.



How did your work as a dockmaster on the Great South Bay influence your art?

How could it not? Being on the bay at the crack of dawn in spots where none of the big boats can rip through—priceless.

Oil is your predominant medium. Is there a reason you're drawn to oil?

The Old Masters way of painting, its longevity, its texture—for me, the only way to go.

Where can we find you when you're not in the studio or behind an easel?

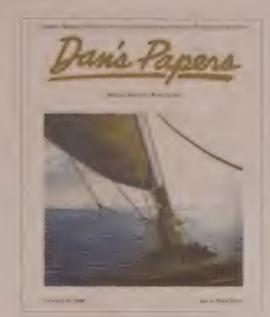
I [do graphics] work on *Saturday Night Live* when it's scheduled on. When that's dark...no city-life for me. I try to disappear.

What's the most unusual place your work has appeared?

Fine art-wise, when you're in print, which can go anywhere, you keep your fingers crossed that it's not in a roadside restroom.

If you could sit down to coffee with any artist from history, who would it be and what would you talk about?

Too many of 'em and not enough coffee. However, I've met some of my contemporaries who I hold in high regard and share technical applications and problem-solving ideas with,



Zider's favorite cover, from October 10, 2008

and just everyday "life" experiences, with a great sense of humor.

Where can readers see more of your work?

My studio is always open. I also have work in Bayview Gallery in Brunswick, Maine and Sheldon Fine Art Gallery in Newport, Rhode Island.

To see more of Doug Zider's work, or make an appointment to see his studio, visit dougzider. com. Find Zider on Istagram @ziderfineart.



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Celebrate Sag Harbor's HarborFrost 2018

inter is coming, er, winter came and is mostly gone at this point. Many places in New England are bracing for mid-February temps in the 60s. Here on the East End we'll be flirting with 50°. But that won't stop the quaint former whaling village of Sag Harbor from celebrating the winter season at the 8th annual Sag Harbor HarborFrost on Saturday. They'll do so with a bang, a sizzle and many a tasty treat. And we're all invited! Whether you like fire (as in fire

jugglers, fire dancers and fireworks) or ice (as in ice carving demonstrations and ice sculptures), HarborFrost will have something special for you and yours. And if it gets really frosty out, don't worry, John Jermain Memorial Library will have a self-serve hot chocolate station operating until 4:30 p.m.

Once you've had enough HarborFun, come back Sunday for Sylvester Manor's fourth annual black history event. *See story on next page.*



Participants at last year's Frosty Plunge

Noon Culinary Stroll starts at Il Cappuccino, 30 Madison Street. Presented by the Sag Harbor Hysterical Society. \$50 per person, includes food samples throughout the day at participating restaurants, live music and prizes for best Chef Hat. Cash bar. Sign up at Il Cappuccino at noon. Call Charlie Canavan for more information, 631-379-2169.

Noon & 5 p.m. Hamptons International Film Festival Presents: Oscar Nominated Films for Best Animated Short Film at Bay Street Theater, 1 Bay Street. *baystreet.org*

1 p.m. Sign up in the Windmill for the Frosty Plunge-

1:30 & 6:30 p.m. Hamptons International Film Festival Presents: Oscar Nominated Films for Best Live Action Short Film at Bay Street Theater

2 p.m. Live ice-carving demonstration on Long Wharf

2 *p.m.* Frosty Plunge at Windmill Beach to benefit the Sag Harbor Volunteer Ambulance

2 p.m.-5 p.m. Indoor children's activities at Dodds & Eder Home, 11 Bridge Street

2:30 p.m. Meet and greet Anna and Elsa from *Frozen* at Sag Harbor Variety Store, 114 Main Street

3 p.m. Ludmilla & Marcello (BrazilianPop/Bossa Nova) at Grenning Gallery,17 Washington Street

3 p.m. and 4 p.m. Keith Leaf the Amazing Fire Juggler on Long Wharf

4 p.m. Singer Alfredo Merat at Sag Harbor Inn, 45 West Water Street

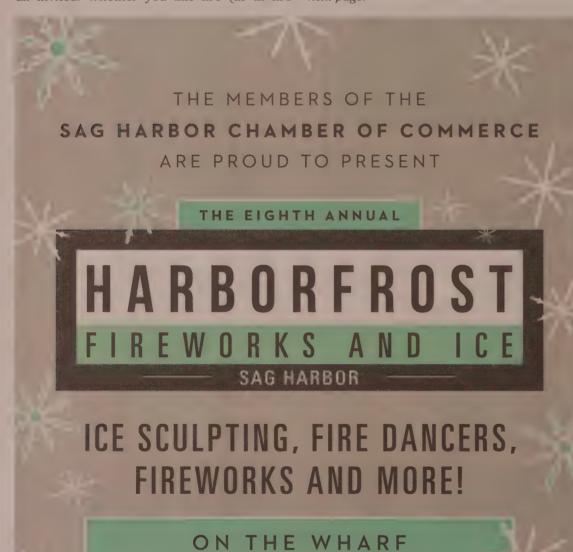
5 p.m. Author Adam Nicolson in conversation with nature writer and biologist Carl Safina on Nicolson's new work, *The Seabird's Cry: Lives and Loves of the Planet's Great Ocean Voyagers* at Canio's Books, 290 Main Street

5:45 *p.m.* Fiery Sensations Fire Dancers on Long Wharf

6:15 p.m. Fireworks by Grucci over the Harbor

Also look for live music throughout the village; nautical-themed ice sculptures on display along Main Street and Bay Street; free glitter tattoos at The Wharf Shop, 69 Main Street; and other special deals and promotions at participating businesses including 20% off all purchases at Stella and Ruby, 144 Main Street; and a fabric and yarn sale at Sag Harbor Variety Store.

See related story on facing page. Find more events at Events.DansPapers.com.



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2PM - 6:30PM

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Lifting Every Voice at Bay Street Theater

BY STACY DERMONT & DAVID TAYLOR

efore there was a United States of America there was slavery. And, always, there was music. "Lift Every Voice: A Celebration of Music, Culture and Tradition," is the title of this year's annual Black History Month event sponsored by the Sylvester Manor Educational Farm in partnership with Eastville Community Historical Society (ECHS) at Bay Street Theater this Sunday, February 25.

The event is named for the "Black National Anthem," the powerful hymn "Lift Every Voice and Sing," penned by poet James Weldon Johnson in 1900. This is the song that marched out of churches to inspire protesters during the Civil Rights Movement:

We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,

Out from the gloomy past,

Till now we stand at last

Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.



Panelist Shane Weeks in his regalia

The rich history of local settlements informs the proceedings. Sylvester Manor, the northern provisioning plantation founded on Shelter Island in 1651 was once a Native American hunting and fishing ground. The Manor has been home to 11 generations of its original European settler family. Inhabited by an extended household of Manhanset and Montaukett Native Americans, Europeans and Africans for centuries, Sylvester Manor, over time transformed from a slaveholdingprovisioning plantation to an Enlightenment-era farm, then to a pioneering food industrialist's estate and, in 2009, to an organic educational farm. The Eastville Heritage House, located in the Eastville neighborhood of Sag Harbor, commemorates the African American, Native American and European Americans-mainly Irish-who settled the Eastville enclave of

This will be the fourth year that Sylvester

Manor and the Eastville Historical Society have offered a joint event in honor of Black History Month. Donnamarie Barnes, curator and archivist at the Manor, notes that the musical part of the program will follow a "loose structure, see what happens when we make music and celebrate it.'

A panel discussion will be led by Eastville Community Historical Society Executive Director Dr. Georgette Grier-Key and will feature musicians Henry Maxwell Letcher II, an East End Jazz DJ, musician and Jazz historian; Shane Weeks, a member of the Shinnecock Nation, drummer and dancer (shown below); Karl Schwarz, a Gospel musician who also performs traditional Blues and is a member of New Moon

Acoustic Blues Band. To prepare questions, Grier-Key "looks at current scholarship and the different genres artists bring."

How music-traditional and moderninforms and celebrates the East End's diverse cultural heritage is what it's all about. Letcher asserts, "Culture is something you feel; it's not something you can take notes on. Music is in the air; it's not something you can touch and manipulate. The joy of music is there are no real rules, but your sincerity will determine how people value it." Music itself-in both its words and sounds-preserves important cultural information.

East Hamptonite Letcher has had a long and fascinating life in (Continued on next page)





with Philip Bauer

baystreet.org 631-725-9500

History (Continued from previous page)

music. Related to music royalty, he grew up in Washington D.C., but summered in Sag Harbor. Letcher used to watch and study the way his cousin, jazz legend Duke Ellington, played piano. Describing it as "spontaneous, never being played in the same way, almost like a football game." Many locals remember Letcher playing steel drum on Sag Harbor's Long Wharf every Sunday as part of a seven-piece band known as the Merrymakers Steel Band.

Black History Month is every month. Weeks reflects, "we [Native Americans and African Americans] were both oppressed. We're both proud. And we both dealt with a major attempt to eradicate our history and culture from our own recollection. It's a doomful history for colored people. But the fact that it's preserved is important, so the story can be told. We honor our ancestors by acknowledging our history. It would have been illegal in the past to speak openly about our history and culture, but now we can acknowledge who we are without the threat of death."

Sometimes, when the oppressed can't speak openly, their response comes out in music. As Schwarz says, "My heritage is of America, thus singing songs of labor and love in America speaks to the experiences of all my relatives and of my own time here. Singing songs that so emotionally speak to heartache and day-to-day struggles is a form of responding to our society rather then searching, as an escape from it."

Telling the stories of the previously silenced is a big part of Sylvester Manor's mission. As their website declares, "We envision a farm, a



Musician, jazz historian and DJ, Henry Maxwell Letcher II

community, and a world where people celebrate food, arts, and inventiveness in the everyday, with a spirit of fairness and joy."

On Sunday, the idea of this worldwide spirit of joy will be realized in microcosm, with so many different cultures merging. Schwarz shares that "understanding and sharing knowledge of American history is one of my favorite pastimes. I feel crazy honored to be invited to take part in this event to both open an honest dialogue of our country's past and how it relates to our wealth of cultures, and to celebrate Black History Month with such talented and knowledgeable artists as Henry Maxwell Letcher II (shown above) and Shane Weeks will be a rare treat. I'm looking forward to learn from these two men and to share our views with our honored guests who

come to share their afternoons with us."

To bring so much history and culture together under one roof echoes what one finds at Sylvester Manor. Similar to the way music talks, Barnes says, "I share the house, I talk to the house, let them [former inhabitants] know what I'm doing. It feels right. I say all the time that the house gives up its secrets at the appropriate time, to fill the holes in history. The day after the 2016 election, I go into the vault [and pick up a] box with a note from Aaron Burr to Ezra L'Hommedieu about the contested election of 1796 and the uproar in Washington because Jefferson won in the electoral college while Adams won the popular vote!"

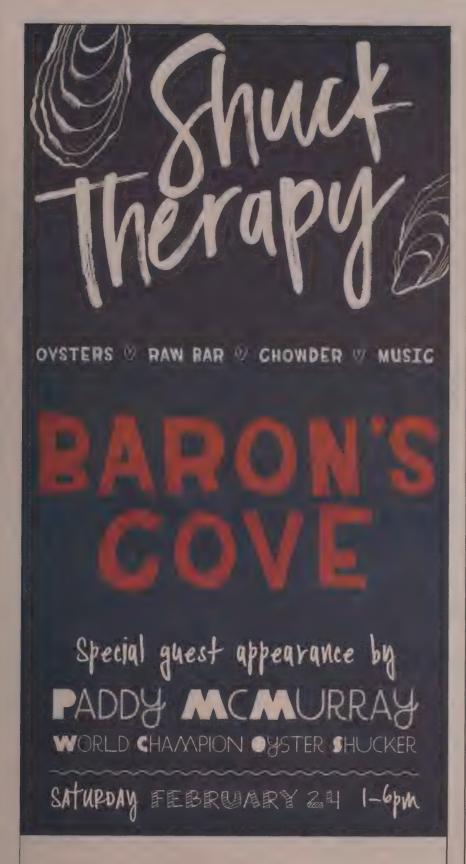
Bay Street is at the very heart of the matter. As this year's program explores the intersection of music, culture and tradition, it does so in a unique nexus of geographic space and history. Sag Harbor Village, where Bay Street Theater is located, lies between Sylvester Manor to the northwest and the Eastville neighborhood to the south.

Barnes, who, like Letcher, grew up summering in Sag Harbor, says, "the East End is the home of my heart and my soul." In the words of Weeks, music has the power "to bring people together. It's a rhythm that mimics the heartbeat of the people."

Lift Every Voice: A Celebration of Music, Culture and Tradition, Sunday, February 25, 2-4 p.m. at Bay Street Theater, 1 Bay Street, Sag Harbor. Tickets \$15 in advance/\$20 at the door, purchase tickets at sylvestermanor.org.









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SAG HARBOR CINEMA

What's happening next and after that.

LIFESTYLE

CALENDAR What to do, where to do it.

Sag Harbor Cinema Arts Center Ready to Rise

BY BERTRAND LANGHORNE

2 017 was a whirlwind in Sag Harbor, relatively speaking. The Women's March, Conca D'Oro closed, home renovation up and down Madison and Main Streets and, of course, it was the first year without a cinema on Main Street in more than a century. And, thanks to the hard work, determination and dedication of the Sag Harbor Partnership (SHP), the Sag Harbor Cinema Arts Center (SHCAC), and the indefatigable April Gornik, the space won't become high-end condos or offices or some big box retail store. Instead, as was the hope and plan all along, Sag Harbor will be getting its Cinema back-and better than ever!

On December 13, 2017, almost one year to the day of the devastating fire, the SHP and the SHCAC surpassed their initial fundraising goal of \$8 million in pledges needed to purchase the cinema from thenowner, Gerald Mallow, thanks in part to a \$1.4 million state grant and an anonymous \$500,000 donation. "We are ecstatic that our efforts over the last year helped us meet our funding goal. This was truly the work of an incredible community of people with a common goal," April Gornik, Vice President of the SHP and Chair of the SHCAC, said.

On January 10 the SHP formally closed on the purchase of the Sag Harbor Cinema from Mallow. In a letter to the community, SHP thanked its many supporters large and small, noting that more than 2,500 people donated and more than 90% of

donations were \$1,000 and under. It takes a village.

Now that that's all taken care of, the SHCAC is on to phase two: building. "We hope to begin building early this summer," Gornik told us, "and are working towards completion of all the necessary board approvals so that we can submit plans and obtain our building permit." She hopes the work will be completed during the first quarter of 2020, adding "this, of course, Patience, Sag Harbor. Patience. depends on the kind of community

support we get in terms of funding and also potential in-kind help!" The amount of funding needed for this phase? The anticipated cost of renovation and construction, according to Gornik, will be

The redesign includes replacing the beloved façade, complete with the iconic Sag Harbor neon, replicating John Eberson's original. In addition, there will be three screening rooms. The new SHCAC will preserve the large, historic "curved scope" screen in the main theater, which will have approximately 250 seats and show the sort of independent and arthouse films we've come to expect of the Cinema. A second, 150-seat theater will be used for a variety of series, which may not have the same audience draw as first-run movies. A smaller, 30-seat



screening room, on a new second floor, will allow for longer runsand reruns-of popular films, and can be rented out for private screenings. Overall, the new Cinema will feature spectacular state-of-the-art equipment and a brand new sound system. It will also have the ability to show digital, 35mm and even 16mm films with astonishing resolution, so that the viewer experience will be as the filmmakers' had intended. "It will be a state-of-the art cinematheque,' Gornik says.

For those who can't wait to get to the movies, the new Cinema's inaugural program, The American Values Film Series, will show it's last film, The Americanization of Emily, at Pierson High School on March 4 at 2 p.m. This anti-war film was both controversial and highly celebrated when it opened in 1964. It places the audience back in 1944 London, during the build-up to D-Day, where Charlie Madison (James Garner), an American naval officer with a taste for the good life, sees his priorities challenged when he falls in love with a driver from the motor pool, Emily Barham (Julie Andrews). Stick around following the movie for an in-depth audience discussion with none other than Andrews herself.

For more on the SGCAC visit sagharborcinema.org.

Hamptons Happenings »»»

Some of the fun events happening in the Hamptons and on the North Fork this week.

IN THE KITCHEN WITH DINA Best of Fest Screening: DINA

When: February 23, 6 p.m.

Where: Southampton Arts Center,

25 Jobs Lane, Southampton

What: Come see this incredible documentary, which was the Grand Jury Prize winner at Sundance Film Festival, and then stick around after the screening to dine and discuss it at Union Cantina.

Contact: 631-283-0967, southamptonartscenter.org

FROSTY THE COMEDIAN

All Star Standup Comedy: HarborFrost Weekend

When: February 23, 8 p.m.

Where: Bay Street Theater, 1 Bay Street, Sag Harbor What: This night of laughs features several rising stars of comedy, including: PJ Landers, Joseph Vecsey, Rosebud Baker and Tanael Joachim.

Contact: 631-725-9500, baystreet.org

A RAY OF SUNSHINE

Ray on My Mind

When: February 24, 8 p.m.

Where: Suffolk Theater, 118 Main Street, Riverhead What: Kenny Brawner will be singing Ray Charles's greatest hits, including: "Hit the Road Jack" and 'Georgia on My Mind.

Contact: 631-727-4343, suffolktheater.com

WHERE'S THE BEEF? **COWBOYS GALORE Guys with Guitars** When: February 26, 8 p.m. Where: Patchogue Theatre, 71 East Main Street, Patchogue

What: An incredible show featuring some of country music's biggest stars, including: Chris Janson, Jordan Davis, Michael Tyler and Midland.

Contact: 631-207-1313, patchoguetheatre.org

Kid Stuff »»»

Kids events on the East End.

SEAFOOD CHAIN

Feeding Time at the Museum: Who Eats Who?

When: February 25, 10:30 a.m.

Where: South Fork Natural History Museum, 377 Bridgehampton/Sag Harbor Turnpike, Bridgehampton What: A behind-the-scenes tour at SoFo. Xylia will show visitors how the team prepares food for the animals; then the group will get up close with the animals as they are fed. Intended for ages 3-5.

Contact: 631-537-9735, sofo.org

FREE TO PLAY

Community Day

When: February 25, 12-3 p.m. Where: Parrish Art Museum, 279 Montauk Highway, Water Mill What: Celebrate the community with free admission

and ongoing activities for kids all afternoon. Contact: 631-283-2118, parrishart.org

HEROINES SAVING PRINCES

Writing Workshop: Fairytales Retold

When: February 25, 3-4 p.m.

Where: East Hampton Library, 159 Main Street, East Hampton What: Get tips and prompts for writing a new

fairytale or recreating an old one. Snacks provided. Contact: 631-324-0222, easthamptonlibrary.org

THE KING

Virginia Repertory Theatre Presents

I Have a Dream

When: February 27, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Where: Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center,

76 Main Street, Westhampton Beach

What: This compelling dramatization of the life and times of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will inspire students as they experience the civil rights leader's struggles and his dream of lifting "our nation from the quicks of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood." Intended for grades 3-8.

Contact: 631-288-1500, whbpac.org

For more events visit Events.DansPapers.com



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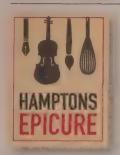
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TOP FIVE
Where to rave
while dining out.

Top 5 Things I Ate in the Hungry Month

BY STACY DERMONT



Nothing is in season in February on the East End—except some seafood and good times. I've been having a ball and, hey, no traffic. I revisited some old haunts and tried some new things....

#5 (Okay, I had this experience on January 28—but that was after deadline for my "January Top 5.") I

headed to the Springs Tavern for a Jackson Pollock birthday celebration (he would have been 106), with pretty low expectations. I'd never eaten at the newly revamped Springs Tavern and I was aware that a Jackson Pollock sort-of-cookbook came out in 2015. But how well did this starving artist eat in the mid-20th century? Well. If he and his wife. Lee Krasner, turned out the goods like the Springs Tavern kitchen did that night, he must have been a true gourmand! One of the simplest of offerings was the most outstanding, the Cross-Country Johnny Cakes (named for Pollock's trip across the U.S. during the Depression with his brother and a bag of cornmeal) served piping hot with butter and maple syrup. I'd welcome Jackson Pollock and his kitchen know-how to my table any time.

#4 Speaking of ghosts, I'm haunted by Chef Ari Pavlou's **grappa**. I heart all grappa—the brandy made from grape pomace—and frequently have to

convince restaurateurs that, no matter how "rough" it is, I want to try theirs. Not Chef Ari. As soon as he heard I was a fan, he poured a "shot" of his "home brew" from a glass rifleshaped bottle. His Bistro Été in Water Mill is reopening next month (with an expanded dining area) after a winter break. Happily, he gave me a small bottle of his grappa to tide me over. It's powerful stuff but has a delightfully perfumed finish.

#3 Our office building's oldest pizza, You know how your company celebrates something with "a pie" and then the leftovers are stored in the basement refrigerator for the intern to munch on? Last Thursday, stuck in the offices trying to get some damn assignment "off my plate," I was starving, I was that intern. That slice of Scotto's three-days-young plain cheese pie was a lifesaver. It got me thinking about the best pizza toppings to order for pizza that may be allowed to "mature." Definitely not pineapple chunks, very possibly black olive slices....

#2 The Roasted Satur Farms Winter Squash Bisque made by Chef Noah Schwartz at the Suffolk Theater in Riverhead is a bowl of creamy love. Savory, curried with just a hint of sweetness in the roasted

pumpkin seed garnish. Suffolk Theater must be the biggest venue on the East End pointedly using local ingredients. Bravo!

#1 The kindness and community spirit of my chosen hometown of Sag Harbor still catches me off guard sometimes. Exchanging my blood for beer felt really right. Despite my extreme squeamishness, I'm a regular blood donor so, naturally, I gave during the recent Jim Federico Memorial Blood Drive at the Sag Harbor Firehouse. All went as well as can be expected and, as I was scarfing

down a giant slice of focaccia sandwich, a young woman came by to thank me for donating and to offer me a gift. I have no memory of what my other two options were, but I happily accepted a coupon for a free pint of beer at the Corner Bar. I'll never go drinking with John Steinbeck at the Black Buoy,

but I quite enjoy lunch with author Danny Peary at the Corner Bar. Of course I ordered a local draft beer with my coupon—a Montauk Session IPA. Cheers!

Read more of Stacy's Hamptons Epicure columns on DansPapers. com and stacydermont.com. Follow her opinionated and informed foodie adventures on twitter @hamptonsepicure.





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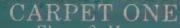
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Sag Harbor High Street Beauty for Sale

BY LAURA EULER

Yes, we probably report on these houses way too often, but when they're this gorgeously updated, what do you expect? We love old houses and we love Sag Harbor and we love when people take loving care of their old houses. This Greek Revival, on the village's High Street, which was listed by Gioia DiPaolo at Sotheby's, dates from 1860 and was restored in 2008 by Robert Strada Design, preserving the past while readying the house for the future. Get a load of the period woodwork, including the random width floorboards, and the copious fireplaces.

According to Robert Strada, this residence was originally built on Elizabeth Street in 1860 with its pediment and gable end facing the street. The off-center entry is in the true Greek Revival style with its flat pilasters and entablature with side and transom lights.

In 1971 the house was moved to High Street. The local school was expanding, and, fortunately, the house was moved instead of completely demolished. Interestingly, half the house was in fact demolished, while the rest was moved along Route 114. A porch which was not original, and which was inconsistent with Greek Revival style, was also removed at that time.

Now, 47 years after the move, the house is unusually spacious owing to a finished lower level at 3,850 square feet. There are four bedrooms, all of which are a good size and two of which sport fireplaces, and five baths. The kitchen, while a bit



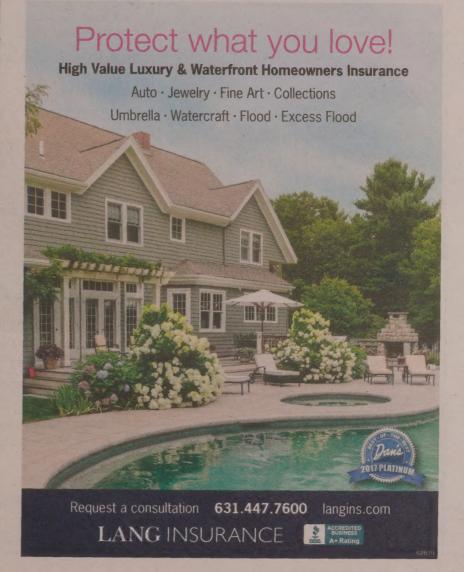
Inside the dining room of 11 High Street, Sag Harbor

strangely laid out (from what we can tell) is in current taste with white cabinets and gleaming white marble counters. The dining room and living room are both simple and elegant (both with fireplaces) and there's also a TV/family room. Down below is another media space (although we'd certainly install a much bigger TV—big is how we roll). It's a nice space with wine storage and a good place to stash the kids.

Outside, the plot is typically small at 0.26 of an acre, but there are sitting areas, pretty gardens, a gunite pool and even a doll-sized pool cabana. Today, it couldn't be more charming, and sit more comfortably right on High Street.

Find all the latest real estate news on BehindtheHedges.com.





2017: A Dud Year for Blockbuster Deals

BY LAURA EULER

In all the hoopla about high-profile sales in the Hamptons this year (Beyoncé and Jay-Z! Lasata! Grey Gardens! Robert Downey Jr!) many failed to notice the dearth of blockbuster deals. The biggest sale of the year was \$31 million for 328 Gin Lane, a house that originally debuted on the market in 2014, asking a whopping \$39.5 million. That's the lowest number for the last 10 years, other than 2009, which followed the financial crisis. (That year's biggest sale was a measly \$19 million for the Pink House, part of the old Wiborg estate.)

The biggest deal for the last 10 years remains Barry Rosenstein's 2014 purchase of 62 Further Lane, East Hampton (plus two contiguous lots) for \$137 million. That means this year's largest sale is



625 Hedges Lane, Sagaponack

just 23% of the largest sale of 2014, and in fact the Gin Lane sale wouldn't have even made 2014's top ten.

Before that, the record price was Ron Baron's 2007 purchase of the de Menil property on Further Lane for \$103 million.

2018's numbers will be different, of course, as Villa Maria has closed for \$49 million, which would top the best prices for 2009 through 2012, and, of course, 2017.

Now, let's go over the top 10 for last year. Interestingly, 7 out of 11 (with one tie) were in Southampton Village. Three were in East Hampton and one in Sagaponack.

1. \$31,000,000

Number 1 for this year is 328 Gin Lane, Southampton, which sold on May 3. Estate of John F Poster to Gin Lane II LLC.

2. \$29,000,000

Number 2 is 211 Lily Pond Lane, East Hampton, which sold on August 29. Ironman Realty LLC to Eric & Lori Blatstein.

3. \$27,500,000

2017's number 3 is 210 Meadow Lane, Southampton. Mid Summer Dream Holdings LLC to Claudine & Glenn Nussdorf.

4. \$26,000,000

Number 4 is 7 Olde Towne Lane, Southampton, which sold February 2. Old Towne Southampton Associates LLC to Oldetownehouse LLC.

5. \$25,925,500

In the middle, at number 5, is 81 Briar Patch Road, East Hampton, which sold August 15. MMR Real Estate Holdings LLC to Briar 81 LLC. (Also known as Jay-Z and Beyoncé.)

6. \$25,000,000

Number 6 is 32 Middle Lane, East Hampton, which sold April 4. Dune Park LLC to 32 Middle Lane LLC.

7. \$24,600,000

2017's number 7 is 1510 Meadow Lane, Southampton, which sold May 26. Lynne Pasculano to Never Squabble LLC.

8. \$24,000,000

Tied for number 8 for this year is 500 Captains Neck Lane, Southampton. Captains Neck LLC to Chickamapaugee LLC.

8. \$24,000,000

Also tied for number 8 is 101 Pheasant Lane, Southampton, which sold October 18. SH 2014 LLC to Caymus LLC.

9. \$22,150,000

At number 9 is 500 Old Town Road, Southampton, which sold March 3. 500 Old Town LLC to OTR Property LLC.

10. \$21,000,000

Rounding out the top 10 of 2017 is 675 Hedges Lane, Sagaponack, which sold September 15. 675 Hedges Lane LLC to HLP LLC.

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